



## HOUSE OF DELEGATES WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

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July 29, 2019

The Honorable Patrick Morrissey  
Attorney General  
State Capitol Complex  
Building 1, Room E-26  
Charleston, WV 25305

Attorney General Morrissey:

On May 3, 2019, you received a letter from Delegates Kessinger and Robinson, regarding the \$37 million in funds from the McKesson Corporation settlement. This settlement was a direct result of McKesson Corporation shipping 100 million opioid pills into West Virginia. The result of McKesson Corporation, and other companies, shipping these pills into our communities is the drug epidemic we currently find ourselves fighting today. This drug epidemic has had a direct impact on West Virginia, estimated at a cost of \$8.8 billion annually by the American Enterprise Institute.

During Oklahoma's trial against Purdue, which netted the state a \$270 million settlement, Andrew Kolodny, an addiction scientist at Brandeis University, estimated \$6 billion annually for at least 10 years is needed to provide adequate evidence-based treatment across the United States.

Due to the fact we have received no response from our May 3<sup>rd</sup> letter, we again urge you to reserve all funds received by your office from the McKesson Corporation settlement to allow the Legislature to appropriate those settlement funds for substance use prevention and treatment. These funds must not be spent on administrative costs; they must be used to combat the drug epidemic that our state is facing due to the actions of the pharmaceutical companies who have caused this plague on our communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Andrew N. Robinson".

Delegate Andrew N. Robinson, 36<sup>th</sup> District

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kayla Kessinger".

Delegate Kayla Kessinger, 32<sup>nd</sup> District

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Matthew Rohrbach".

Delegate Matthew Rohrbach, 17<sup>th</sup> District

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Chad Lovejoy".

Delegate Chad Lovejoy, 17<sup>th</sup> District

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mark Dean".

Delegate Mark Dean, 21<sup>st</sup> District